

United States Army Corps of Engineers, is retiring from duty bringing to a close his admirable 29-year military career.

Colonel DeLony, a 1973 graduate of Texas A&M, spent much of his career in the elite Airborne forces including command of the 101st Airborne Division's Engineer Battalion and as the Brigade Operations Officer of the 20th Airborne Engineer Brigade during the Gulf War. For his service, Colonel DeLony has been awarded a number of decorations including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (Five Awards), Army Commendation Medal (Two Awards), National Defense Service Medal (Two Awards), Saudi Arabia Liberation Medal and the Kuwait Liberation Medal. He has also earned the Senior Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the coveted Ranger Tab.

In his most recent assignment, Colonel DeLony served as the Commander of the Wilmington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In this position, Colonel DeLony battled different foes, from mosquitoes in the Cape Fear River to Hurricane Debby as it threatened the Southeast coast. He has distinguished himself in this assignment, providing able leadership as his command carried out its essential mission of enhancing the military and economic capabilities of South-Central Virginia and North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the Representative of the citizens of Virginia's 4th District to congratulate Colonel DeLony on his magnificent career and to thank him for his long service to America. Colonel, we wish you and your wife Jennifer every happiness as you begin this new assignment and thank you both for your dedication to service and duty.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HILDA VAUGHAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Hilda Vaughan, an exceptional individual who has selflessly devoted her time and energy to the betterment of this nation. I applaud her outstanding character, and her desire to support and educate her community. Hilda demonstrates impressive qualities worthy of such praise, and today we honor her retirement as a salute to a job well done.

Hilda was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, and spent her adolescent years thirsting for knowledge. After graduating from Rustburg High School in Rustburg Virginia, she obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lynchburg College, and married her beloved husband, Ted Vaughan. Hilda moved to Silt, Colorado, and served her community well, by holding a number of clerical, secretarial, and accounting positions. Additionally, Hilda achieved her EMT-B certification and assisted the Grand Valley Fire Protection District. Hilda's attention to detail, together with her unwavering determination, led her to become and perform as an outstanding substitute teacher and librarian for 23 years. As a student teacher in Lynchburg, she educated herself to become a mentor as well as a teacher. Her first substitute teaching position was in the RE-2 School District, in

Rifle, Colorado. Through her experiences in different geographic areas and districts, Hilda expanded her vast knowledge and wisdom, and became an excellent asset to every school district she served. Today we admire a woman who selflessly donated her time and efforts to upholding the structure of her community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride I honor such an outstanding individual before this body of Congress and this nation. Hilda contributed so much, and she was so thoughtful, words will never express our appreciation to her. Hilda, thank you for your hard work in our country, and I anticipate great future achievements from you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, my flight from Los Angeles was delayed in departing and I unavoidably missed two roll-call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 208, H.R. 4800 to make the adoption tax credit permanent, "Yea".

On rollcall No. 207, to make permanent the tax exemption for payments to Holocaust survivors, "Yea".

EXPLAINING SEPTEMBER 11TH TO FUTURE 4TH GRADERS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following letter to you and all of our colleagues. Nicole Bansen read this letter at the Lindenhurst Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27, 2002. An elementary school student from Long Island, Nicole directed the letter to future 4th graders so that they might better understand September 11 based on her own experience. Like Nicole, I believe that we must help preserve the memory of that tragic day by sharing our stories with future generations.

DEAR FUTURE FOURTH GRADER: September 11, 2001 was a tragic day. I'm writing this letter to tell you what really happened. I was in school when it happened. That was the day that jet planes hit the Twin Towers, and soon both collapsed. Tower One was hit first. Within the next hour, Tower Two was also hit. Time seemed to freeze. Everyone just stopped what they were doing to see what happened in disbelief. It was like a nightmare coming true!

When I found out what had happened, my heart felt like it was shattered, just like the Twin Towers. After school, my brother and Mom told me to watch the news. I turned on the television and saw both planes crashing into the Twin Towers. A friend of our family's worked on the 72nd floor of Tower One. I was afraid that he might be killed, like so many others. He made it out of the building in minutes before it collapsed!

I was affected by this tragedy in a sad way because I will not see the Twin Towers anymore, and so many innocent people died. In

the future, people should never forget this day, and always remember all the people who died. I believe parents should tell their children the truth about what happened when they are old enough to understand, so they aren't frightened. Your friends and you will learn about this day in your Social Studies class in school, if your parents didn't already tell you about it.

I hope this terrorist act never happens again. Hopefully you will never know the "evil" word, terrorism. But, if something like this does happen again, I am sure that everyone will be very sad. I am so glad to be an American, because of our freedom and people staying united through difficult times.

Sincerely,

NICOLE BANSEN.

FARM SECURITY ACT

HON. ERNEST J. ISTOOK, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that the attached article appearing in The Weekly Standard on May 27, 2002 regarding the recently passed and signed Farm Security Act conference report be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Weekly Standard, May 27, 2002]

THE PIGS RETURN TO THE TROUGH

FARM SUBSIDIES ARE BACK, BIGGER THAN EVER

(By Fred Barnes)

The White House veto of the farm bill was bold and defiant, reflecting the strength and confidence of the president. The bill not only costs too much and imposes too many government controls, he said, but it's also filled with "so much that would be detrimental to farmers," their future would be put in jeopardy. "It would do harm to every agricultural region of the country," the president said, causing large surpluses. "Thus it fails to meet the test of being good for farmers and fair to all our people." Too bad this veto message didn't come from President Bush last week when he instead signed the bloated new farm bill. No, those words were President Eisenhower's as he vetoed the Agricultural Act of 1956.

At the last moment, Bush considered a veto. His aides checked with congressional Republicans to find out if the bill's price tag might be as much as \$20 billion more than advertised. It's costly, but not that costly, the White House was told. And even if it were, it was too late for a veto, the president having signaled repeatedly that he'd sign the measure. So, with misgivings, Bush went along. Three times, he called the bill "generous," and he conceded "it's not a perfect bill." His weak explanation for signing it was: "There's no such thing as a perfect bill."

There's a lot more wrong with the bill Bush signed than a few imperfections. First, there's the money. Depending on whose projections you use, it will raise farm spending by \$73 billion to \$82 billion over 10 years. The bill's total cost is pegged at \$457.8 billion, including \$251.9 billion for food stamps. What's worse is the attitude of Congress and the White House toward the increased spending that the bill reveals. A war is on and there's again a huge deficit, yet Washington is back to its old ways, gorging on spending. The era in which big government was over is over.

The bill not only increases spending for most existing crop subsidy programs, it